

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-3. (Cancelled).

4. (New) A wireless access point (AP) operative to perform authentication for both legacy 802.11x and 802.11i wireless stations, wherein:

if an 802.11i wireless station is encountered by said AP, filtering is performed until a 802.11i association and authentication is completed;

if a legacy 802.11x wireless station is encountered by said AP, allowing the wireless station to initiate a login procedure with a Public Access Control gateway (PAC); and,

if the 802.11x wireless station is not authenticated by the PAC, filter all messages from the wireless station.

5. (New) The AP according to claim 4, wherein:

if a legacy 802.11x wireless station is encountered, in order to accomplish login, a PAC timer is set and traffic is forwarded by said AP to and from the PAC using encapsulation, and transmitting a message from said AP to said PAC indicating that the wireless station needs authentication, said PAC operative to transmit a web based login page to the legacy 802.11x wireless station.

6. (New) The AP according to claim 5, wherein said AP waits for a message from the PAC indicative of successful authorisation of the legacy 802.11x wireless station and, once received, allows traffic to and from the legacy 802.11x wireless station without filtering.